Funds allocated under National Social Assistance Programme to Assam

2293. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allotted to the State of Assam under National Social Assistance Programme during the last three years;

(b) the funds utilised under the various schemes in the State; and

(c) the necessary steps taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) and (b) The total funds allocated to the Government of Assam and the funds reported to be utilised by the State under the National Social Assistance Programme which comprised the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS) and the National Family Benefit Scheme (NFBS) during the last three years are given below:

(Rs. in lakh)

Name of the	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
Scheme	Allocation	Utilisation	Allocation	Utilisation	Allocation	Utilisation
NOAPS	826.98	760.12	2624.34	1620.27	2624.34	2542.72
NFBS	646.36	474.70	1552.78	853.54	1473.14	1063.73

(c) As a result of the review of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes by the Government of India, the National Social Assistance Programme alongwith the Annapurna Scheme had been transferred to the the State Plan wth effect from the financial year, 2002-03. The funds are now being released by the Ministry of Finance as Additional Central Assistance to the State Plan and the States have the requisite flexibility in the choice and implementation of the Schemes.